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CATECHISM

OF THE

HISTORY

OF THE

UNITED STATES:

WITH A

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE OF AMERICAN HISTORY,

FROM ITS DISCOVERY IN 1492, TO THE YEAR 1850.

Designed to accompany Irving's Series of Catechisms.

By M. J. KERNEY, Esq.

Author of Compendium of Ancient and Modern History, &c. &c. &c.

ADAPTED TO THE USE OF SCHOOLS IN THE UNITED STATES.

"There is nothing that can better deserve our patronage than the promotion of science and literature. Knowledge is in every country the surest basis of public happiness; and in one in which the measures of government receive their impression so immediately from the sense of the community as in ours, it is proportionably essential."

Washington.

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PREFACE.

THE following little Work is designed for children about to commence the study of History. It has been compiled at the request of the Publishers, to be used in connection with Irving's highly popular series of Catechisms. The plan of the Work is similar to that adopted by Dr. Irving. The catechetical form of instruction is now admitted by the most experienced teachers, to be the best adapted to the nature and capacity of children;—a system by which they will acquire a knowledge of a science in less time than by any other.

As an introductory work, the following Catechism will be found to posssess many advantages, particularly for that class of learners for which it is designed. It presents to the minds of the young a clear and concise view of the

most interesting and important events of the history of their own country. The Chronological Table will render them familiar with the dates of the most important transactions, and serve as an excellent method of exercising their memories.

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A CATECHISM

OF THE

HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES.

INTRODUCTION.

Q. What is History?

A. History is a written narrative of past events.

Q. What are the divisions of History?

A. History is divided into Ancient and Modern; Sacred and Profane.

Q. What do you understand by Ancient History?

A. Ancient History, is an account of all events, that have taken place from the Creation of the world to the Christian Era.

Q. What is Modern History?

A. Modern History embraces an account of all events, from the birth of Christ to the present time.

Q. What is Sacred History?

A. Sacred History is that, which is contained in the Sacred Scriptures.

Q. What is Profane History?

A. Profane History is properly the history of fabulous gods, and heroes of antiquity.

Q. Which is the most ancient history?

A. The most ancient history, is that contained in the Old Testament; which gives an account of the Creation of the world, the fall of our first parents, &c.

Q. How many years from the Creation of the world to the birth of Christ?

A. It is commonly said to be four thousand and four years.

Q. How is Ancient History distinguished?

A. It is distinguished for the rise and fall of the four great Empires of Assyria, Persia, Greece and Rome.

Q. For what is Modern History distinguished?

A. Modern History is distinguished for the invention of gunpowder, the discovery of America, and the invention of the art of printing.

Q. What are the Middle Ages?

A. The Middle Ages, embrace a period, which extends from the decline of the Western Empire of the Romans, to the fall of the Eastern Empire.

Q. How are Middle Ages distinguished?

A. They are distinguished by the rise, and progress of Mahometanism, the Feudal System, Crusades, and Chivalry.

CHAPTER I.

Discovery and Antiquities of America.

Q. Who discovered America?

A. Christopher Columbus.

Q. When and where was Columbus born?

A. At Genoa, in Italy; in the year 1435.

Q. How was his youth spent?

Q. At the age of fourteen, he engaged in a sea-faring life; and soon became distinguished, for his skill in managing boats and vessels upon the water.

Q. In what branches of knowledge did he excel?

A. He was particularly distinguished for his knowledge of Geometry, Astronomy, Geography, and Naval science.

Q. What were the people of Europe at that time endeavoring to find?

A. They were endeavoring to find a passage by water to the East Indies.

Q. How did they expect to find a passage by water?

A. By sailing around the southern part of Africa, and then taking an eastern course.

Q. What did Columbus conclude?

A. Columbus, reasoning from the spherical figure of the earth, concluded that the Indies

might be reached, by sailing directly west from Europe.

Q. To whom did he first apply for assistance?

A. He first applied to the government of Genoa, his native country, but his theory was treated as visionary.

Q. By whom was he finally assisted?

A. By Ferdinand and Isabella, the sovereigns of Spain.

Q. Where did he sail from?

A. From the port of Palos in Spain, with three small vessels, carrying ninety men.

Q. When did he discover America?

A. On the 12th of October, in the year 1492.

Q. What land did he first reach?

A. He first reached one of the Bahama Islands, to which he gave the name of Saint Salvadore.

Q. How many voyages did Columbus make to America?

A. Four; in the third of which he discovered the Continent, and landed in several places in the northern part of South America.

Q. Why was the country called America?

A. The country was called America, from Americus Vespucius, who sailed to the New World, on a voyage of discovery, after Columbus had reached the Continent; Americus explored, still farther, the new regions, and on his return to Spain published an account of

his discovery, and the country in consequence, received the name of *America*.

Q. By whom was North America discovered?

A. By John Cabot, then in the service of Henry the VII, king of England.

Q. What part of the Continent did Cabot discover?

A. He discovered the coast of Labrador, and sailed along the southern coast, and took possession of the country in the name of his sovereign. This laid the foundation of the British claim to North America.

Q. In what year did this take place?

A. In the year 1496; and one year later, he discovered Newfoundland.

Q. Is it probable that any part of America was known before the time of Columbus?

A. It is said that Greenland was visited by the Norwegians, in the year 982, and it is now generally believed, that America at an early period was inhabited by a race of people far more advanced in civilization, than the Indians.

Q. How do they support this conjecture?

A. By the ruins of many extensive works of art, found in many parts of the country.

Q. Where may some of these be found?

A. In Virginia, Pennsylvania, Ohio, New York, Kentucky, and many other States.

Q. What ruins do you find in Virginia?

A. Near Wheeling, on the Ohio River, is

to be seen the ruins of an ancient mound, fifty feet in circumference, and ninety feet high. This mound is filled with thousands of human skeletons, and was probably situated near some great city, and was the general deposite of the dead for ages.

Q. What may be found in Pennsylvania?

A. Near Marietta are extensive fortifications, consisting of walls, and mounds of earth, from six to ten feet high, and nearly forty feet broad at the base. On the Susquehanna River, a piece of pottery was found, measuring twelve feet across the top, and thirty-six feet in circumference.

Q. What ruins may be seen in Ohio?

A. On the banks of the Muskingum River, are the ruins of immense walls, forts, mounds, and wells, many of them built of hewn stone; and at Paint Creek, are to be seen the remains of ancient forts of immense size, covering one hundred and fifteen acres of land.

Q. What has been found in New York?

A. In Onondaga County, is the site of an ancient burying ground. In one of the graves was found a glass bottle, and an iron hatchet edged with steel. In Scipio County, a man found several hundred weight of brass, and a quantity of wrought iron, sufficient to shoe his horses for many years. On the Genesee River, a piece of silver was found, on which was engraved in Arabic letters, *the year of our Lord* 600.

Q. What may be found in Kentucky?

A. Lexington, in Kentucky, stands nearly on the site of an ancient town of great extent and magnificence, the ruins of which are still visible.

Q. What do these things prove?

A. They prove, that America was at some remote period inhabited by a race of people, acquainted with many of the mechanical arts, and far advanced in civilization; and that, by some unknown cause, they disappeared from the country, or sank into a state of barbarism, such as the natives were found when Columbus first visited the country.

CHAPTER II.

The Settlement of Virginia.

Q. When and where did the English commence their settlement in America?

A. In 1584, Sir Walter Raleigh sent out a company of adventurers, who landed on an island in Pamlico Sound, and then proceeded to the Isle of Roanoke, where they commenced a settlement.

Q. What was the fate of this party?

A. They were in a short time reduced to the utmost distress by famine, and by hostili-

ties with the natives, and returned again to England.

Q. What did Raleigh do, in 1585?

A. In 1585, Raleigh sent out another company of one hundred and fifty men.

Q. Where did they land?

A. This party also landed on the Isle of Roanoke, but they were soon reduced to great distress, and returned to England with Sir Francis Drake.

Q. When was the first permanent settlement made in Virginia?

A. The first permanent settlement was made in Virginia, in 1607, at Jamestown, under the direction of the London Company.

Q. What have you to observe of the first settlers?

A. They were men of dissipated habits, and destitute of industry and economy. They were soon involved in war with the Indians; and in six months after they landed, half their number died of famine and disease.

Q. What distinguished man was among the first settlers?

A. Captain John Smith.

Q. What have you to relate of Smith?

A. He was taken prisoner by the Indians, who carried him to Powhatan, their king.

Q. What sentence was pronounced on Smith?

A. He was condemned to death, and immediately led forth to execution.

Q. What happened as they were about to execute him?

A. His head was laid upon a stone, and the savages with uplifted clubs were about to kill him; but just at this moment, Pocahontas, the favorite daughter of Powhatan, rushed between the executioners and the prisoner, and by her tears and entreaties prevailed on her father to spare the life of Smith.

Q. Was her prayer heard?

A. Yes; Smith obtained his liberty, and returned in safety to Jamestown.

Q. What is related of Pocahontas?

A. Powhatan had secretly planned the destruction of the Colony, but Pocahontas went to Jamestown on a dark and stormy night, and disclosed to Smith the designs of her father, and thus saved the colony from destruction.

Q. What happened to her on another visit to Jamestown?

A. She was detained a prisoner.

Q. Whom did she marry?

A. She was married to a young man named John Rolfe, with whom she sailed to England, and was there instructed in the Christian religion, and publicly baptized.

Q. Where did she die?

A. She died at Gravesend, leaving one son, from whom some of the most eminent families are descended.

Q. When and by whom was slavery introduced?

A. In the year 1620, a Dutch vessel from the coast of Guinea, sailed up the James River, having on board about twenty negroes, who were sold to the planters.

Q. What happened on the 22d of March, 1623?

A. The colony was attacked by the Indians, and in one fatal hour, 347 of the colonists, fell victims to their cruelty.

Q. What took place in 1676?

A. An insurrection broke out, called Bacon's Rebellion, from the name of its leader.

Q. During this rebellion, what happened?

A. The country was laid waste, and Jamestown burned to the ground; but it was terminated by the death of Bacon.

CHAPTER III.

The Settlement of the New England States.

Q. How did these States get the name of New England?

A. In 1614, this section of the country was visited by the celebrated Captain Smith, who explored the coast, and on his return to Europe, made a map of the country, and called it *New England.*

Q. By whom was Massachusetts settled?

A. By a company of persons from England, called Puritans.

Q. Where had the Puritans gone, before they removed to America?

A. They had gone to Holland.

Q. Why did they resolve to remove to America?

A. To avoid the persecution carried on against them in their own country, on account of their religion.

Q. What was the name of the vessel in which they sailed?

A. The Mayflower.

Q. Where did they intend to land?

A. They intended to land at the mouth of the Hudson River, but they were carried much further to the north.

Q. When, and where did they land?

A. They landed on the 22d of December, 1620, at a place, called by the natives Patuxet, but to which they gave the name of Plymouth.

Q. Why did they call the place Plymouth?

A. In honor of Plymouth, in England, the port from which they sailed.

Q. What was the number of the pilgrims?

A. They numbered 101.

Q. What was their condition?

A. They suffered greatly from famine and sickness, so that half their number died before spring.

Q. When and by whom was Connecticut settled?

A. In 1636, by a company of persons from Massachusetts, with their minister, Mr. Hooker.

Q. Where did they commence their first settlements?

A. At Windsor, Hartford, and Weathersfield.

Q. By whom was Rhode Island settled?

A. Rhode Island was settled in 1636, by Roger Williams, a clergyman, who was expelled from Massachusetts on account of his religious opinions.

Q. What did Williams call the first town?

A. He called it Providence, in grateful remembrance of the protection of Heaven over him.

Q. What may be remarked of the charter obtained from England for the government of the colony?

A. The charter was liberal; it granted free toleration in matters of religion; yet the Roman Catholics were excluded from voting at election, and from all civil offices.

Q. By whom was the first settlement in New Hampshire made?

A. By the Rev. Mr. Wheelright, and a few followers, who were also banished from Massachusetts, on account of their religion.

Q. Who made the first settlement in Maine?

A. The first settlement in Maine was made by Ferdinand Gorges, in 1636.

Q. From what did the New England colonies suffer?

A. They suffered greatly from the hostilities of the Indians.

Q What were the most powerful tribes?

A. The Narragansetts and the Pequods.

Q. What have you to relate concerning the two tribes?

A. The Narragansetts and Pequods, were always great enemies to each other; at length the former joined the English in a war against the latter, and the nation of the Pequods was entirely destroyed.

Q. When and where was the first printing-press established in America?

A. In the year 1639, at Cambridge, in Massachusetts.

Q. What may be said of the colonists, with regard to education?

A. They took deep interest in the affairs of education, and at an early period, established schools and colleges for the education of their children.

Q. When was Harvard University founded?

A. In the year 1638, at Cambridge.

Q. When and where was William and Mary College founded?

A. In the year 1693, in Virginia.

Q. When was Yale College founded?

A. In the year 1700, at Saybrook, in Connecticut.

Q. When was Dartmouth College founded?

A. In the year 1769, at Hanover, New Hampshire.

CHAPTER IV.

The Settlement of the Middle and Southern States.

Q. By whom was New York settled?

A. By a company of Dutch, in the year 1614.

Q. Where did they commence their settlement?

A. They sailed up the Hudson River, and commenced a settlement near the present city of Albany; they also commenced another settlement on Manhattan Island, where the city of New York now stands, and called it, New Amsterdam.

Q. What took place in the year 1664?

A. New Amsterdam was conquered by the English, and called New York, in honor of the Duke of York, to whom it was granted.

Q. By whom was Delaware settled?

A. Delaware was settled by the Swedes and Finns, in 1630.

Q. Where did they commence their first settlement?

A. Near the entrance of the Delaware Bay, where they laid the foundation of Lewistown, the oldest town in the State.

Q. A few years after they commenced this settlement, what took place?

A. The Swedes and Finns were conquered, and their colony subdued by Stuyvesant, the governor of New Netherlands.

Q. By whom was Maryland settled?

A. The settlement of Maryland was commenced in 1633, by a colony of Roman Catholics under Lord Baltimore, a native of England.

Q. Why did they leave England?

A. They left England, because they were greatly persecuted, on account of their religion.

Q. Where did they land?

A. They landed on the shores of the Chesapeake Bay, and commenced a settlement, at a village, which they purchased from the Indians, and called Saint Mary's.

Q. What were the names of the vessels, in which they sailed?

A. They were called the Ark and the Dove.

Q. What have you to observe with regard to the government of this colony?

A. The government of Lord Baltimore, was established on the most liberal principles. Civil and religious liberty were proclaimed; no one was molested on account of his religion; and all were permitted to worship God, according to the dictates of their own conscience.

Q. To whom does the honor of having first established religious freedom in America, belong?

A. To the Roman Catholics of Maryland.

Q. By whom was Pennsylvania settled?

A. By a company of Friends, or Quakers, under the celebrated William Penn.

Q. When did they arrive in this country?

A. The first company arrived in the year 1681; but Penn himself did not arrive until about a year later, with another party.

Q. Where did they commence a settlement?

A. They purchased the land from the natives, and commenced a settlement on the Delaware River, where the city of Philadelphia now stands.

Q. What have you to observe of this colony?

A. William Penn, following the example of Lord Baltimore, established full liberty of conscience, and the settlement soon became flourishing.

Q. When and where did Penn die?

A. He died in England, in 1718, in the 75th year of his age.

Q. By whom was North Carolina settled?

A. In the year 1650, by a colony from Virginia.

Q. Where did they commence a settlement?

A. Near Albemarle Sound.

Q. When was South Carolina settled?

A. In the year 1689, where Charleston now stands.

Q. What was introduced in 1700?

A. In the year 1700, the cultivation of cotton and rice was introduced.

Q. When and by whom was Georgia settled?

A. In the year 1732, by Mr. Oglethorpe, who commenced a settlement where the city of Savannah now stands.

CHAPTER V.

The French War, and Conquest of Canada.

Q. WHERE had the French made settlements?

A. They had made settlements in Canada, Nova Scotia, and near the Mississippi River.

Q. What occurred between the English and French settlers?

A. Frequent disputes.

Q. What did the French endeavor to do?

A. They endeavored to connect their distant possessions, by erecting forts along the Ohio River, and military posts from that river across the country to the lakes.

Q. What did the governor of Virginia do?

A. He resolved to send a person to the French settlement on the Ohio, to demand the cause of those hostile proceedings.

Q. On whom did the choice fall?

A. On George Washington, then a young man in the twenty-first year of his age.

Q. When and where was Washington born?

A. On the 22d of February, in 1732, in Westmoreland County, Virginia.

Q. How was his youth distinguished?

A. It was distinguished by his attention and progress in his studies, and great regard for TRUTH.

Q. How far was the French forts on the Ohio, from the Virginia colony.

A. The distance was about 400 miles, 200 of which, were through a wilderness inhabited by hostile tribes of Indians.

Q. How did Washington travel?

A. He started on horse-back; but before he had proceeded far, his horse failed. He then proceeded on foot, with a musket in his hand, and a pack on his back. He reached the French settlement, delivered the message to the commander, and returned in safety to Virginia.

Q. What have you to observe of the reply of the French commander?

A. The reply did not give satisfaction, and the governor of Virginia immediately organized a regiment, to support the claims of Great Britain.

Q. Who was appointed commander of this regiment?

A. Mr. Fry was appointed colonel, and young Washington lieutenant-colonel; but on the death of Fry, which happened shortly afterwards, the command devolved upon Washington.

Q. Where did Washington proceed?

A. He marched forward to attack the French at Fort Duquesne, near the place where Pittsburg now stands.

Q. What happened before he reached that place?

A. Before he reached the fort, he was informed that the French had been strongly reinforced.

Q. What did he do?

A. He fell back to a fort which he had recently thrown up.

Q. What took place there?

A. He was there attacked by the French, and made a brave resistance, but he was at last compelled to capitulate.

Q. What happened in 1754?

A. General Braddock arrived in Virginia, with authority of commander-in-chief of the English forces in America.

Q. What did Braddock do?

A. Despising the prudent advice of Washington, he pushed forward to Fort Duquesne.

Q. What was the consequence?

A. Before he reached the fort, he was suddenly attacked by a body of French and Indians.

Q. What followed?

A. After making a brave resistance, the English were totally defeated.

Q. What is said of Braddock?

A. He did all that a brave general could do; but after having five horses shot under him, he fell mortally wounded.

Q. What is said of Washington?

A. Washington, had two horses shot under him, and four balls passed through his coat, yet he escaped unhurt.

Q. About the same time, what took place in the eastern colonies?

A. General Shirley, of Massachusetts, led an expedition against Canada; but it was unsuccessful; and Oswego was taken by the French.

Q. What took place in 1759?

A. Niagara taken by Sir William Johnson, and Quebec by General Wolfe.

Q. What is related of Wolfe?

A. He received a mortal wound in the moment of victory, and was carried to the rear of the army. When in the agonies of death, he heard the shout: "They fly, they fly!" "Who fly?" asked the dying hero; and being told that it was the French, he replied: "I die happy;" and immediately expired.

Q. What is related of Montcalm, the French commander?

A. Montcalm also fell mortally wounded; and being told that he could survive only a few moments, he replied: "So much the better; I shall not then live to see the surrender of Quebec."

Q. What took place the following year?

A. Canada was reduced to a British province.

CHAPTER VI.

The Causes of the Revolution.

Q. WHAT may be observed of the colonies up to this period?

A. Up to this period the colonies expressed a warm attachment for England, and felt proud of their connection with one of the most powerful nations of Europe.

Q. What were some of the causes which led to the American Revolution?

A. Shortly after the French war, the British government began to encroach upon the rights of the colonies, and wished to raise a revenue, by taxing them, without their consent.

Q. What was the first act of oppression, passed by the British parliament towards the American colonies?

A. It was the famous *Stamp Act*, passed in the year 1765.

Q. What was the nature of this act?

A. By this act, the Americans were compelled to use *stamped* paper for all notes, bonds, and other legal instruments, on which paper, a

heavy duty was to be paid to the British government.

Q. What did the Americans do, when they heard of the passage of this act?

A. They shut up the courts of justice, and the people settled their disputes by arbitration; they then formed an association against importing or using British goods.

Q. What took place in 1766?

A. The opposition to the stamp act was so great, that it was repealed in 1766.

Q. What was the next act of oppression on the part of the British parliament?

A. In 1767, a duty was laid on tea, glass, paper, and several other articles, imported to the colonies.

Q. What followed the passage of this act?

A. The flame of opposition increased in America, to such a degree, that in 1770, the British parliament repealed the duties on all articles, except three pence per pound on tea.

Q. In 1773, how did the people of Boston express their opposition to the duty on tea?

A. A party of men, disguised as Indians, went on board the ships, during the night, and threw the tea, consisting of 342 chests, into the harbor.

Q. When the news of this action reached England, what did the parliament do?

A. An act was passed, by which the port of Boston was closed, and the government transferred to Salem.

Q. What other tyrannical act was passed about this time?

A. An act was passed by the British parliament, by which, all persons indicted for capital offences, were to be sent to England for trial.

Q. When and where did the first Continental Congress meet?

A. At Philadelphia, in the year 1774.

Q. What was entered into?

A. An agreement was entered into, called, the Solemn League and Covenant, by which the members determined to suspend all intercourse with Great Britain, until their rights should be restored.

Q. Who was the first president of the Continental Congress?

A. Peyton Randolph, of Virginia.

Q. What was commenced about this time?

A. A regular enlistment of soldiers.

CHAPTER VII.

The Revolutionary War.

Q. WHERE was the first battle fought in the Revolution?

A. At Lexington, in the year 1775.

Q. What occasioned the battle of Lexington?

A. On the 19th April, a body of British

troops was sent to destroy some military stores collected at Concord; but in passing through Lexington, they were met by a small party of Americans, who had assembled to oppose their progress.

Q. What was the issue of the battle?

A. The Americans were dispersed, and the British troops proceeded to Concord.

Q. What followed this event?

A. The Americans roused by the report of the muskets, assembled by hundreds, and the British were obliged to retreat to Boston.

Q. What happened to them in their retreat?

A. They were attacked by the Americans, and sixty-five of their number killed, and one hundred and eighty wounded.

Q. What did Congress do immediately after this event?

A. It voted that thirty thousand men should be raised in the New England colonies.

Q. In the mean time what was done?

A. Crown Point, and several other forts and magazines, in the possession of the English, were seized by the Americans.

Q. What did the Americans resolve?

A. They resolved, if possible, to drive the British from Boston.

Q. For this purpose, what did they do?

A. They directed Colonel Prescott, with a body of one thousand men, to throw up an intrenchment on Bunker's Hill.

Q. What mistake took place?

A. Prescott took possession of Breed's Hill, an eminence much nearer Boston.

Q. When did Prescott gain possession of the hill?

A. He reached the place during the night of the 16th of June, and worked so silently that the English had no intimation of his design, until the sun, on the return of day, beamed upon the American works.

Q. What did the British do, when they beheld Breed's Hill occupied by the Americans?

A. After firing upon the works from the ships in the harbor, without effect, General Gage sent General Howe and General Pigot, with three thousand men, to drive the Americans from the hill.

Q. What followed?

A. The memorable battle of Bunker's Hill, during which the British troops were twice repulsed, with a heavy loss; but being reinforced, they finally succeeded in carrying the fortification.

Q. How did the Americans fight?

A. They fought with determined bravery; when all their ammunition was exhausted, they continued the battle with the butt-end of their muskets, and were only driven from their works at the point of the bayonet.

Q. What was the loss on both sides?

A. The British lost one thousand and fifty-

four, in killed and wounded; and the Americans thirty-nine killed, and two hundred and twenty-eight wounded.

Q. During the battle of Bunker's Hill, what town was set on fire?

A. Charlestown: a few bombs were thrown into it, and the place soon enveloped in flames.

Q. After this battle, who was chosen as Commander-in-chief of the American forces?

A. George Washington, then in the forty-fourth year of his age.

Q. When and where did Washington take command of the army?

A. On the 2d of July 1775, at Cambridge, near Boston.

Q. Who were sent to invade Canada?

A. Generals Schuyler and Montgomery.

Q. What place did Montgomery capture?

A. Montreal.

Q. Who was sent to aid Montgomery?

A. General Arnold.

Q. What place did they attempt to take by storm?

A. The city of Quebec.

Q. What was the result?

A. The attempt proved unsuccessful, and fatal to the heroic Montgomery, who fell in the act of scaling the walls.

Q. What was the first operation of General Washington?

A. The expulsion of the British from Boston.

Q. How did he effect this?

A. He erected a battery on Dorchester Point, which soon obliged General Howe to abandon the city.

Q. When did the British leave Boston?

A. On the 17th of March they embarked for Halifax.

Q. By whom was the city of Charleston, the capital of South Carolina, attacked?

A. By Sir Peter Parker with several British vessels of war.

Q. What was the result?

A. After a violent assault, which lasted for ten hours, they were compelled to retire.

Q. Who defended the city?

A. Colonel Moultrie.

Q. On the 7th of June what motion was made in Congress?

A. A motion was made by Richard Henry Lee of Virginia, and seconded by John Adams of Massachusetts, declaring the colonies free and independent.

Q. When did the Declaration of Independence take place?

A. On the fourth of July in the year 1776.

Q. Who wrote the Declaration of Independence?

A. Thomas Jefferson.

Q. How many colonies were there at that time?

A. Thirteen.

Q. What were they declared to be?

A. They were declared to be *Free, Sovereign, and Independent States.*

Q. Where was Congress then assembled?

A. In Philadelphia.

Q. Who was then president of the Congress?

A. John Hancock.

Q. How did the signers pledge themselves to support this declaration?

A. They pledged *their lives, their fortunes, and their sacred honor.*

CHAPTER VIII.

Revolutionary War—Continued.

Q. When and where was the first battle fought after the Declaration of Independence?

A. On the 2d of August, on Long Island.

Q. Which party was victorious?

A. The British.

Q. Who commanded the Americans?

A. General Sullivan.

Q. By whom were the British commanded?

A. Sir Henry Clinton, Percy, and Lord Cornwallis.

Q. Can you tell the loss on both sides?

A. The British lost four hundred, but the Americans lost about one thousand in killed, wounded and prisoners.

Q. After this battle, what did the British do?

A. They took possession of New York; October 12th.

Q. Where did the Americans retire?

A. They retired to White Plains, where, on the 28th of October, a severe action took place, in which several hundred were killed and wounded on both sides; yet neither party could claim the victory.

Q. After this battle, where did Washington retire?

A. He retired to Newark; from thence he passed through New Brunswick, Princeton, Trenton, and finally crossed the Delaware; being closely pursued by the British under Lord Cornwallis.

Q. Where was General Lee taken prisoner?

A. At Baskenridge, near Brunswick.

Q. During the winter of this year, what daring enterprise did Washington accomplish?

A. On the 25th of December he recrossed the Delaware, and surprised a large body of Hessian troops at Trenton, and took them prisoners.

Q. What was the number of the prisoners?

A. About one thousand and forty-eight.

Q. Who were the Hessians?

A. They were German soldiers, hired by England to fight against the Americans.

Q. What did Washington then do?

A. Taking with him a great quantity of

arms and ammunition that fell into his hands, he recrossed the Delaware the same day.

Q. What was Washington's next exploit?

A. On the 3d of January, 1777, he proceeded to Princeton, defeated a party of British, with a loss of three hundred men, and compelled the remainder, about three hundred in number, to surrender themselves as prisoners of war.

Q. What is said of these achievements?

A. They diffused universal joy among the Americans, and inspired them with fresh ardor in the cause of freedom.

Q. During this spring, what took place in Connecticut?

A. Governor Tryon was sent by the British to destroy some military stores at Danbury.

Q. Did he succeed in his design?

A. He destroyed the stores, and partly burnt the town.

Q. What happened on his return?

A. He was attacked and defeated by the Americans under General Wooster, who unfortunately lost his life.

Q. What was the object of General Howe?

A. To gain possession of Philadelphia.

Q. For this purpose, what did he do?

A. He embarked his troops at New York, sailed up the Chesapeake Bay, and landing at the head of Elk river, he commenced his march to Philadelphia.

Q. When and where was he opposed?

A. On the 11th of September, on the banks of the river Brandywine, not far from Wilmington.

Q. What was the result of the battle?

A. The Americans, under General Washington, were repulsed.

Q. What two distinguished foreigners served under the American banners, in the battle?

A. La Fayette of France, and Pulaski of Poland; the former of whom was wounded.

Q. When did the British take possession of Philadelphia?

A. On the 26th of September, 1777.

Q. What took place on the 4th of October?

A. An attempt was made by General Washington to surprise a detachment of the British at Germantown; but the attempt was unsuccessful.

Q. Where had the Americans two forts erected?

A. They had one on Mud Island, below Philadelphia, called fort Mifflin; and another on the Jersey shore, called Red Bank.

Q. What have you to observe of these forts?

A. They were repeatedly attacked by the British, and finally taken, but not until they were entirely battered down, and all the cannon dismounted.

Q. Where did Washington take up his winter-quarters?

A. At Valley-Forge, about twenty miles from Philadelphia.

Q. What have you to observe of the condition of the Americans at Valley-Forge?

A. They were destitute of almost every thing; shoes, stockings, blankets, tents, &c., and had nothing but temporary huts to shelter them from the inclemency of the weather.

Q. What took place at Bennington?

A. Colonel Baum, the British commander, was defeated by the Americans under General Starke.

Q. When did this engagement take place?

A. On the 16th of August, 1777.

Q. Who was the commander-in-chief of the British forces in this quarter?

A. General Burgoyne.

Q. Who, at that time, was appointed to the command of the American forces?

A. General Gates.

Q. What battle took place the 19th of September?

A. The battle of Stillwater, on the west side of the Hudson river.

Q. What party gained the victory?

A. The battle was indecisive, though the Americans had the advantage.

Q. Where did Burgoyne entrench himself?

A. At Saratoga.

Q. What took place on the 17th of October, 1777?

A. Burgoyne was compelled to surrender himself, and his whole army, to General Gates, as prisoners of war.

Q. What was the number of troops that surrendered to General Gates at Saratoga?

A. About 5,790 men, together with all their arms, ammunition, and military stores.

CHAPTER IX.

The Revolutionary War continued.

Q. WHAT took place in the early part of the year 1778?

A. A treaty of alliance was concluded between France and the United States.

Q. Can you name the American commissioners with whom the treaty was negotiated?

A. Dr. Franklin, Silas Dean and Arthur Lee.

Q. When the news of this treaty reached England, what was done by the British government?

A. War was immediately declared against France, and commissioners were sent to America, to settle the difficulties with the colonies.

Q. Were these commissioners successful?

A. No; their offers were rejected.

Q. What took place on the 22d of June, 1778?

A. The British evacuated Philadelphia.

Q. What occurred on the 28th of June?

A. The battle of Monmouth took place.

Q. Can you describe the battle?

A. The battle was conducted for some time with great bravery on both sides; at length General Lee retreated, and threw the American lines into disorder; but Washington coming up at this moment, order was again restored. The battle ended with the day; and during the night the British silently withdrew, and continued their march to New York.

Q. What assistance arrived about this time?

A. In July, a fleet under the command of Count d'Estaing, sent over by the king of France, arrived on the coast of the United States, bringing aid to the Americans.

Q. What was done by the fleet?

A. Nothing of any particular importance; at the close of the season it sailed to the West Indies, where it remained during the winter.

Q. What settlement was destroyed about this time.

A. The settlement of Wyoming.

Q. Where was Wyoming?

A. It was situated near the banks of the Susquehanna, in the present county of Luzerne, Pennsylvania.

Q. Can you describe its destruction?

A. It was attacked by a party of tories and Indians; the men were butchered, and the

women and children were locked up in the houses, which were then set on fire, and the unfortunate inmates were consumed in the flames.

Q. Where did Washington pass the winter of 1778 and 1779?

A. At Middlebrook, in New Jersey.

Q. What took place in July?

A. Stony Point, on the Hudson, was captured by General Wayne.

Q. In the mean time, what took place in the South?

A. The British took possession of Savannah and Sunbury, in Georgia.

Q. What took place at Savannah?

A. The Americans, under General Lincoln, in connection with the French fleet, attempted to retake it; but the attempt was unsuccessful.

Q. What distinguished personage was killed during this attack?

A. The brave and patriotic Pulaski, a native of Poland, who had come to this country to aid the Americans to gain their independence.

Q. How was the campaign of 1780 commenced?

A. The British laid siege to Charleston, the capital of South Carolina.

Q. What was the result?

A. The city was bravely defended for some time, but was at length compelled to surrender, May 11th.

Q. What took place on the 16th of August?

A. General Gates was defeated near Camden, by the British, under Lord Cornwallis.

Q. Where was the next battle fought?

A. At King's Mountain, North Carolina.

Q. What party gained the victory?

A. The Americans, under Colonel Campbell.

Q. What took place in July?

A. A French fleet, under the command of De Ternay, arrived at Rhode Island.

Q. What was the number of troops on board this fleet?

A. About 6,000, under the command of Count de Rochambeau.

Q. For what was this year distinguished?

A. For the treachery of General Arnold.

Q. What did Arnold intend to do?

A. He intended to betray West Point into the hands of the British.

Q. Who was the agent with whom Arnold had an interview?

A. A British officer, named Major Andre.

Q. How were the designs of Arnold prevented?

A. Andre was detected on his return to New York.

Q. Can you relate the particulars of his capture?

A. He was returning to New York in the dress of a private citizen, when he was stopped by three American soldiers, who searched him,

and found a drawing of West Point, and other papers concealed in one of his boots.

Q. When did this take place?

A. On the 23d of September, 1780.

Q. What did Andre do to obtain his release?

A. He offered his capturers a purse of gold, and a valuable watch, if they would let him go: these noble-hearted patriots valued their country above gold, they refused to release him, and immediately led him to the American camp.

Q. What was the fate of Andre?

A. He was tried and executed as a spy.

Q. What became of Arnold?

A. He made his escape to New York, and received, as the reward of his treachery, the appointment of general in the British army.

CHAPTER X.

The Revolution concluded.

Q. After the defeat of General Gates, who was appointed to the command of the Southern army?

A. General Greene, in 1781.

Q. What took place on the 17th of January, this year?

A. The Americans, under General Morgan, gained a signal victory over the British, com-

manded by Tarlton, in the battle of the Cowpens.

Q. Which party gained the victory in the battle of Hobkirk's Hill?

A. The British, under Lord Rawdon.

Q. Who commanded the Americans?

A. General Greene.

Q. What occurred at Eutaw Springs, in South Carolina?

A. General Greene completely routed the main body of the British army.

Q. After this battle, where did Lord Cornwallis fortify himself?

A. Yorktown, in Virginia.

Q. When General Washington heard of the position of Cornwallis, what did he do?

A. He left his camp at White Plains, crossed the Hudson with his army, and passing rapidly through New Jersey and Pennsylvania, he arrived at the head of Elk river, or his way to Yorktown.

Q. By whom was he joined?

A. Marquis de Lafayette, with reinforcements.

Q. While Washington was on his march, what pleasing intelligence did he receive?

A. He heard of the arrival of a French fleet, under the command of Count de Grasse.

Q. At the same time, what fleet appeared off the Capes?

A. A British fleet, under the command of Admiral Greaves.

Q. What action took place?

A. A slight action took place between the two fleets, in which the French had the advantage, and remained in possession of the Bay.

Q. In the mean time, what did General Washington do?

A. He embarked his forces, and arrived at Yorktown.

Q. What was now commenced?

A. A close siege was now commenced, and carried on with so much vigor, that Lord Cornwallis was obliged to surrender himself and his whole army to General Washington, as prisoners of war.

Q. When did this event take place?

A. On the 19th of October, 1781.

Q. What was the number of the British troops that surrendered?

A. They exceeded seven thousand?

Q. What amount of military stores were taken?

A. Seventy-five brass, and 169 iron cannon, 7,794 muskets, 28 standards, besides many other valuable articles.

Q. When the news of this glorious event reached Congress, what did that body recommend?

A. It recommended a day of general thanksgiving throughout the United States.

Q. After the surrender of Cornwallis, what became of the British forces in the South?

A. They evacuated all their posts in South Carolina, and Georgia, and joined the main army in New York.

Q. After this, what did Great Britain do?

A. She resolved to discontinue a war, which had already exhausted the nation, and reflected so much discredit on her arms.

Q. When were pacific overtures made to the American people?

A. Early in the spring of 1782, when both nations ceased from hostilities.

Q. Who were the American Commissioners with whom the treaty of peace was negotiated?

A. John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Henry Laurens, and John Jay.

Q. Where did they meet?

A. In the city of Paris.

Q. When was the treaty concluded and signed?

A. On the 30th of November, 1782.

Q. When was it ratified by the United States?

A. On the 3d of September, 1783.

Q. Where was Congress in session at that time?

A. At Annapolis, in Maryland.

Q. How long had the war lasted?

A. About eight years.

Q. What did the war cost Great Britain?

A. The sum of one million pounds sterling, and 50,000 of her subjects.

Q. What took place on the 25th of November, 1783?

A. The British evacuated New York, and General Washington, accompanied by Governor Clinton, entered that city in triumph.

Q. After peace was concluded, what did General Washington do?

A. He resigned his military commission, and retired to his peaceful home, at Mount Vernon, in Virginia.

Q. About this time, what society was formed?

A. The officers of the American army, before they separated, formed themselves into a society, which they called Cincinnati, after Cincinnatus, the celebrated Roman general, who, after he had vanquished the enemies of his country, retired to his farm.

CHAPTER XI.

Adoption of the Constitution of the United States—Difficulties with France, &c. &c.

Q. Previous to the formation of the present Constitution, by what had the United States been governed?

A. By the Articles of Confederation.

Q. What have you to observe of them?

A. After the dangers of the war had passed away, they were found wholly insufficient for the public wants.

Q. What was determined on?

A. The formation of a Constitution, which might supply the deficiencies of the old one.

Q. Where did delegates assemble for that purpose?

A. In the city of Philadelphia, on the 25th of May, 1787.

Q. How long did the delegates deliberate?

A. About four months.

Q. After the delegates had agreed on the form of the Constitution, what did they do?

A. They sent it to Congress, and by this body was sent to the different States, for their consideration.

Q. Was it accepted by all the States?

A. No; North Carolina, and Rhode Island, at first rejected it, but they afterwards adopted it.

Q. By the Constitution, in whom is the legislative power vested?

A. In a Congress, consisting of a President, a Senate, and House of Representatives.

Q. Where did the first Congress meet?

A. In the city of New York, in April, 1788.

Q. Who was elected the first President of United States?

A. General Washington, who was then in the 57th year of his age.

Q. Who was chosen Vice President?

A. John Adams, of Massachusetts.

Q. What were some of the first acts of Congress?

A. They laid a duty on the importation of merchandise, and on the tonnage of vessels.

Q. When was the United States Bank established?

A. In the year 1790, and was chartered for twenty years.

Q. What distinguished man died at this period?

A. Doctor Franklin died at Philadelphia, while Governor of Pennsylvania, at the age of 84 years.

Q. What disturbance took place about this time?

A. The inhabitants of the western part of Pennsylvania were highly incensed by certain measures of Congress, for raising a revenue by imposing a tax upon distilled spirits.

Q. What did the President do?

A. Washington sent a military force into that section of the state, but the difficulty was settled without bloodshed.

Q. What took place in 1794?

A. The Indians, who still carried on hostilities against the whites in the Western States, were defeated by General Wayne, and compelled to sign a treaty of peace.

Q. In what were the United States involved?

A. They were involved in difficulties, growing out of the convulsion of Europe.

Q. What did the French do?

A. They put their king to death, then abolished the regal government, and established a republic on its ruins.

Q. What did they look for from America?

A. They expected that the people of the United States would assist them, and sent over to America Mr. Genet, as their agent.

Q. What is said of the conduct of Genet?

A. He conducted himself with great haughtiness, and treated the American Republic like a tributary country; his conduct was disavowed by the French government, and Mr. Fauchet was sent over in his place.

Q. What course did Washington determine to pursue, during the distracting wars of Europe?

A. He determined to observe a strict neutrality.

Q. How long was Washington President of the United States?

A. He served two terms, or eight years.

Q. At the end of his second term, what did he do?

A. He declined a re-election, issued a farewell address to the American people, and retired from public life.

Q. Who succeeded him in the office of President?

A. John Adams, of Massachusetts.

Q. Who was chosen Vice President?

A. Thomas Jefferson, of Virginia.

Q. During the administration of Mr. Adams, what is said of France?

A. The French Directory made, with much insolence, certain unreasonable demands of the United States, and assumed a hostile attitude.

Q. What did the United States do?

A. They immediately took measures of defence; General Washington was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Army, and orders were given for the capture of French vessels.

Q. What followed?

A. Commodore Truxton, commanding the Constellation, American ship-of-war, captured two French vessels.

Q. What was the effect of these measures?

A. The French government was soon induced to make overtures of peace.

Q. What happened about this period?

A. The Republic was destined to mourn the death of General Washington.

Q. When and where did Washington die?

A. On the 14th of December, in 1799, at Mount Vernon, in the 68th year of his age.

Q. Of what disease did he die?

A. He died of an inflammation of the throat, after an illness of only two days.

Q. When and by whom was the city of Washington laid out?

A. In 1791, by the distinguished man, whose name it bears.

Q. When was the seat of government removed to Washington?

A. In the year 1800.

Q. What city had previously been the seat of Government?

A. The city of Philadelphia, for the space of ten years.

Q. Who succeeded Mr. Adams as President of the United States?

A. Thomas Jefferson, in 1801.

Q. Who, at the same time was chosen Vice President?

A. Aaron Burr.

Q. About this time, what new source of vexation arose?

A. The piracies of the Barbary States.

Q. What did Tripoli demand?

A. Certain tributes, which the United States refused to pay.

Q. What followed?

A. Several vessels belonging to the United States were captured.

Q. In 1803, what took place?

A. The American frigate Philadelphia, run aground near Tripoli, and all her officers and men were taken prisoners, and the vessel seized by the Tripolitans.

Q. How were the American prisoners treated?

A. The officers were treated as prisoners of war, but the men with the greatest cruelty; they were chained to loaded carts, and compelled to drag them through the town.

Q. In 1804, what took place?

A. Lieutenant Stephen Decatur sailed into the very harbor of Tripoli, and burnt the frigate Philadelphia.

Q. On what terms did the American prisoners obtain their liberty?

A. On the payment of sixty thousand dollars.

Q. From what nation was the territory of Louisiana purchased?

A. From France, in 1803, for the sum of $15,000,000.

Q. What took place in the year 1807?

A. Aaron Burr was tried for conspiracy.

Q. Of what was he accused?

A. He was accused of an attempt to separate the Southern and Western States from the

rest, and to erect them into a separate government, the capital of which should be New Orleans.

Q. What was the result of the trial?

A. He was acquitted for want of sufficient evidence.

Q. Who had been previously killed in a duel by Burr?

A. Alexander Hamilton, in 1804, at Hoboken, New Jersey.

CHAPTER XII.

The Late War with England.

Q. WHAT was the principal cause of the late war with England?

A. The practice authorized by the British government of searching American vessels, and taking from them such persons as were thought to be natives of Great Britain.

Q. What have you to observe of this practice?

A. It was subject to great abuse, from the difficulty of distinguishing between British deserters and American seamen. Moreover, the British officers were not always anxious to make this distinction, and on several occasions, it was believed, that American citizens were compelled to serve in the British navy.

Q. Was there any other cause?

A. Yes: England blockaded the ports of her enemies, and prevented American vessels entering; thus violating the rights of neutral nations.

Q. When was war declared?

A. On the 18th of June, in the year 1812.

Q. Who was President at this time?

A. James Madison, who succeeded Thomas Jefferson in 1809.

Q. What was one of the first operations of the war?

A. The invasion of Canada by Gen. Hull.

Q. What was the result?

A. On the 16th of August General Hull disgracefully surrendered his whole army into the hands of the British.

Q. When Hull returned to the States, what followed?

A. He was immediately tried by a court martial, found guilty of cowardice, and sentenced to be shot.

Q. Was this sentence carried into execution?

A. No: on account of his age, and the services he had rendered during the Revolution, he was pardoned by the President; but his name was stricken from the roll of officers.

Q. On the 19th of August, what took place?

A. The American frigate Constitution, commanded by Captain Hull, captured the

British frigate Guerriere, after an action of only twenty minutes.

Q. What was the loss on both sides?

A. The Guerriere lost fifteen killed, and sixty-four wounded, and that of the Constitution, was seven killed and seven wounded.

Q. On the 25th of October, what naval victory was obtained?

A. Commodore Decatur, commanding the American frigate United States, captured the British frigate Macedonian.

Q. In this action, what was the loss of both sides?

A. The British lost thirty-six killed, sixty-eight wounded, the American loss amounted to seven killed and five wounded.

Q. What did Captain Jones achieve?

A. Captain Jones, who commanded the Wasp, captured the Frolic, a British sloop-of-war; but on the same day they were both captured by a British frigate.

Q. What took place in December?

A. The Constitution, then under command of Captain Bainbridge, captured the British frigate Java.

Q. What was the first operation of the year 1813?

A. A detachment of about 800 men under General Winchester, was surprised and defeated by the British and Indians, under General Proctor, at Frenchtown.

Q. What was the fate of those, who surrendered?

A. They were nearly all inhumanly massacred by the Indians.

Q. What took place in April?

A. York, the capital of Upper Canada, was taken by the Americans, under General Pike.

Q. What was the fate of General Pike?

A. He was killed in the moment of victory by the explosion of a magazine.

Q. What took place in May?

A. An attack was made on Sackett's Harbor by the British, but they were repulsed by the Americans, under General Brown.

Q. By whom was the British brig Peacock captured?

A. By Captain Lawrence, who commanded the Hornet.

Q. To what vessel was Lawrence afterward transferred?

A. To the Chesapeake.

Q. By whom was the Chesapeake captured?

A. By Captain Broke, who commanded the British frigate Shannon.

Q. What was the fate of Capt. Lawrence?

A. He fell, mortally wounded, in the beginning of the action.

Q. What is related of him?

A. When carried below, wounded and bleeding, he was asked if the colors should be struck; he replied: "No: they shall wave

while I live;" and while he was able to speak, he would exclaim: "Don't give up the ship!"

Q. What was the most brilliant achievement of this year?

A. Perry's victory on Lake Erie.

Q. Can you describe the battle?

A. The flag ship of the Americans suffered severely in the beginning of the action, and being in a sinking condition, Perry descended into an open boat, and, passing through a shower of balls, transported his flag to another of his vessels.

Q. What was the condition of the British fleet?

A. It was reduced almost to a total wreck.

Q. After this victory, what took place?

A. General Harrison embarked his forces, landed on the Canada shores, and defeated the British in the battle of the Thames.

Q. In this battle who was killed?

A. The celebrated Indian chief, Tecumseh, by Colonel Johnson.

Q. What took place in July, 1814?

A. General Brown defeated the British in the battle of Chippewa.

Q. Who commanded the British?

A. General Drummond.

Q. On the 25th of the same month what took place?

A. Generals Brown and Scott defeated the British at the battle of Bridgewater.

Q. What took place at Plattsburg, on Lake Champlain?

A. A brilliant victory was obtained over the British fleet, by the American squadron, commanded by Commodore McDonough.

Q. What was the number of men, and guns, on each fleet?

A. The British fleet carried 1,050 men and 95 guns; while the American force amounted to only 820 men and 85 guns.

Q. While the battle raged on the lake, what took place on land?

A. An attack was made on Plattsburg by the British, under the command of Sir George Prevost, but they were repulsed with a heavy loss.

Q. What took place on the 24th of August?

A. The Americans were defeated at Bladensburg.

Q. Who were the respective commanders?

A. General Ross commanded the British, and General Winder was the American commander.

Q. After the battle, what took place?

A. The British marched forward and took possession of the city of Washington.

Q. What buildings were ordered to be burnt, by General Ross?

A. The capitol, the treasury, war, and navy offices.

Q. What city was next attacked?

A. The city of Baltimore.

Q. What took place on the 12th of September?

A. The British landed at North Point, below the city, but were repulsed by the Americans under the command of Gen. Stricker.

Q. What was the fate of General Ross?

A. As he advaneed at the head of his army, he was killed by an American rifleman.

Q. What was done by the British fleet?

A. It bombarded Fort McHenry for about twenty-four hours, without doing any material injury.

Q. What became of the British after the death of General Ross?

A. They abandoned their attempts on Baltimore; and embarking on board their fleet, they moved down the Bay.

Q. Previous to this time, what took place?

A. Overtures of peace were made by the Prince Regent of England.

Q. Who were the American commissioners appointed to negotiate a peace?

A. They were Henry Clay, Jonathan Russell, John Quincy Adams, James A. Bayard, and Albert Gallatin.

Q. Where did they meet?

A. They met at Ghent.

Q. While negotiations were in progress, what took place in the South?

A. A large British force, under General

Packenham, made an attack upon the city of New Orleans.

Q. Who commanded the Americans?

A. General Jackson.

Q. Of what did Jackson make a breast-work?

A. Of bales of cotton.

Q. When did the battle of New Orleans take place?

A. On the 8th of January, 1815.

Q. What was the loss of the British?

A. They lost 700 killed, 1,400 wounded, and 500 prisoners.

Q. What was the loss of the Americans?

A. They lost only 7 killed, and 6 wounded.

Q. What was the fate of Generals Packenham and Gibbs?

A. They were both mortally wounded.

Q. When was the treaty of peace concluded?

A. On the 24th of December, 1814.

CHAPTER XIII.

The National Bank, &c.

Q. When was the National Bank rechartered?

A. In the year 1816, for twenty years, with a capital of $35,000,000.

Q. Who succeeded Mr. Madison?

A. Mr. Monroe, of Virginia.

Q. How long had Mr. Madison been President?

A. Eight years.

Q. Where did Mr. Madison retire?

A. He retired to his residence in Virginia, where he died in 1836, at the age of 85 years.

Q. When and by whom was Decatur killed in a duel?

A. By Commodore Barron, in 1820.

Q. When and from what nation was Florida ceded to the United States?

A. By Spain, in the year 1820.

Q. What sum was paid for it?

A. Five millions of dollars.

Q. When was a territorial government established over Florida?

A. In the year 1822.

Q. What is the difference between states and territories?

A. States elect their own governors, and send representatives to Congress; and territories do not.

Q. What ratio is at present established for the representation in Congress?

A. At the rate of one representative for every 70,680 inhabitants.

Q. Therefore, how many inhabitants must a territory have before it can become a state?

A. It must have at least 70,680.

Q. What was the population of the United States in the year 1820?

A. About nine millions five hundred thousand.

Q. When was the colony of Liberia, in Africa, established?

A. In the year 1820.

Q. What is the object of this settlement?

A. It is designed as a place for the colonization of free Africans, and emancipated slaves of the United States.

Q. What took place during the year 1824?

A. The Marquis de La Fayette visited the United States.

Q. How was he received?

A. He was received with every demonstration of joy by the people, and Congress voted him two hundred thousand dollars, and 25,000 acres of land, as a testimonial of the gratitude of the United States.

Q. Who suceeeded Mr. Monroe as President of the United States?

A. John Quincy Adams, of Massachusetts.

Q. For what is the 4th of July, 1828, memorable?

A. For the death of the two ex-presidents, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson.

Q. What was their respective ages?

A. Mr. Adams was 91, and Mr. Jefferson 83 years of age.

Q. By whom was Mr. Adams succeeded in the office of President?

A. By General Andrew Jackson, in the year 1829.

Q. In 1832 what bill passed both houses of Congress?

A. A bill for rechartering the United States Bank.

Q. Was the bill signed by the President?

A. No: Jackson returned it to the House, with his objections; and declared that in his opinion the bank was inexpedient and unconstitutional, and therefore he would never sanction it by his approval.

Q. What was the consequence?

A. The National Bank, which had existed for forty-five years, was abolished at the expiration of its charter, in 1836.

Q. By whom was General Jackson succeeded in the office of President?

A. By Martin Van Buren of New York.

Q. How long had Jackson been President?

A. Eight years.

Q. When, and where, did General Jackson die?

A. On the 8th of June, 1845, at his residence near Nashville, Tennessee, at the age of seventy-eight years.

Q. By what was the administration of Van Buren disturbed?

A. By the war with the Seminole Indians in Florida, who had committed the most fearful depredations on the inhabitants.

Q. What was the name of their most celebrated chief?

A. Osceola.

Q. How was Osceola taken prisoner?

A. He came to the camp of the Americans, under a flag of truce, and was detained by order of General Jessup.

Q. Why was the flag of truce not respected?

A. Because Osceola was treacherous, and could not be bound by any treaty.

Q. When was the Seminole war terminated?

A. It was terminated in the year 1840.

Q. What was the population of the United States in 1840?

A. It amounted to 17,068,666 inhabitants.

Q. By whom was Martin Van Buren succeeded?

A. By General Harrison, in 1840.

Q. Who, at the same time, was elected Vice President?

A. John Tyler, of Virginia.

Q. How long had Van Buren been President?

A. Only four years.

Q. How long did General Harrison occupy the presidential office?

A. Only one month.

Q. When was he inaugurated?

A. On the 4th of March, 1841.

Q. When and where did he die?

A. On the 4th of the following April, in the presidential mansion, at Washington.

Q. On whom did the duties of President devolve?

A. On the Vice President, Mr. Tyler, who served out the remainder of the term.

Q. In 1843, what disturbance occurred in the state of Rhode Island?

A. An attempt was made by the people to abolish the ancient charter, and to establish a constitution like the other states.

Q. Had Rhode Island no constitution previous to this time?

A. No: she was governed by the charter of Charles II, granted in the year 1663.

Q. What was the result?

A. The constitutional party was unsuccessful, and Thomas W. Dorr, whom they had elected governor, was tried, and condemned to imprisonment for life.

Q. By whom was Mr. Tyler succeeded in the office of President?

A. By James K. Polk, of Tennessee.

Q. Who, at the same time, was elected Vice President?

A. George M. Dallas, of Pennsylvania.

CHAPTER XIV.

War with Mexico—Causes of the War—The Battle of Palo Alto—Battle of the Resaca de la Palma—Battle of Monterey—Battle of Buena Vista.

Q. What was one of the principal causes of the war with Mexico?

A. The admission of the Republic of Texas into the Union.

Q. What was Texas formerly?

A. Texas was a Mexican province.

Q. When did it become independent of Mexico?

A. In the year 1836.

Q. What was the chief battle.

A. The battle of San Jacinto, in which Santa Anna, the President of Mexico, was taken prisoner.

Q. When was Texas admitted into the United States?

A. In the year 1845.

Q. How did this act displease Mexico?

A. In the first place, Mexico had never acknowledged the independence of Texas; and secondly, Texas claimed a greater extent of territory than Mexico was willing to admit.

Q. What was the original boundary between the two countries?

A. Mexico held the river Nueces to be the original boundary, but Texas maintained that the Rio Grande, from its source to its mouth, was the correct boundary between the two countries, and consequently claimed the territory between the two rivers.

Q. With what boundary did the United States receive Texas into the Union?

A. With the Rio Grande as the Western boundary.

Q. What followed as a consequence on the admission of Texas?

A. It followed that the United States was compelled to settle with Mexico, the difficulty concerning the disputed territory.

Q. What orders did General Taylor receive?

A. He was directed by the President to take up some position west of the river Nueces, and to hold himself in readiness to repel any attempt at invasion by Mexico.

Q. When and where was General Taylor born?

A. General Zachary Taylor was born in the year 1790, in Orange county, Virginia.

Q. When did he enter the army.

A. He entered the army in the year 1808, as lieutenant; and during the late war he was promoted to the rank of Major, for his brilliant defence of Fort Harrison.

Q. Where did he afterwards distinguish himself?

A. In the Indian war, in Florida.

Q. When was he promoted to the rank of General?

A. In the year 1840, and was appointed to the command of the army in the South.

Q. When did he receive the rank of Major General?

A. Shortly after the commencement of the Mexican war.

Q. Where did General Taylor take up his position?

A. He crossed the Colorado river, and took up a position at Point Isabel, where he erected a fort, called Fort Polk.

Q. What did he do on the 28th of March?

A. He advanced towards the Rio Grande, took up a position opposite Matamoras, and erected Fort Brown.

Q. In the mean time, who was sent to Mexico, as commissioner on the part of the United States?

A. Mr. Slidell.

Q. What was the result?

A. The Mexican government would not receive him, and he was compelled to return.

Q. On the 24th of April, what took place?

A. General Arista, the commander of the Mexican forces, informed General Taylor that he considered hostilities already commenced.

Q. On the 29th of April, of what was General Taylor informed?

A. He was informed that Point Isabel was in danger of being taken by the enemy; and he immediately set out to its relief.

Q. During his absence, what happened?

A. Fort Brown was furiously attacked by the Mexicans.

Q. On receiving intelligence of this, what did General Taylor do?

A. He immediately commenced his march back to Fort Brown.

Q. At Palo Alto, what took place?

A. He was met by the Mexicans, drawn up in order of battle, and prepared to dispute his progress.

Q. What followed?

A. A severe and obstinate battle followed, in which the Mexicans were defeated.

Q. When did this battle take place?

A. On the 8th of May, 1846.

Q. What was the loss on both sides?

A. The Mexicans lost over 300, in killed and wounded; the American loss was 9 killed, and 42 wounded.

Q. Among the Americans, what distinguished man was killed?

A. Major Ringgold, the commander of the Flying Artillery.

Q. When and where was the next battle fought?

A. On the next day, at a place called Resaca de la Palma.

Q. What was the issue of this battle?

A. The Mexicans were again defeated, and fled with precipitation across the river to Matamoras.

Q. By what was this battle distinguished?

A. It was distinguished by the desperate charge of Captain May, who, at the head of his dragoons, rode up to the very mouth of the enemy's cannon, silenced the batteries, and took General Vega prisoner.

Q. What did the Mexicans lose?

A. They lost the whole of their artillery, 2,000 stand of arms, 600 mules, with the private papers of General Arista.

Q. What was the loss on both sides?

A. The Mexicans lost 800 in killed and wounded, while the Americans lost 39 killed and 82 wounded.

Q. When did General Taylor take possession of the city of Matamoras?

A. On the 18th of May.

Q. Where did General Taylor next direct his march?

Q. To Monterey, the capital of New Leon, a city situated about 170 miles from Matamoras.

Q. What took place at this city?

A. A severe battle took place, which continued with but little intermission for three days.

Q. What was the issue of the battle?

A. The Mexicans were defeated, and the city surrendered to General Taylor.

Q. What was the number of the Mexican army?

A. It numbered about 10,000 men; while the forces under General Taylor amounted to only 6,000.

Q. What was the loss on both sides?

A. The Americans lost about 125 killed, and 350 wounded; the Mexicans lost nearly 1,000 killed and wounded.

Q. When did this battle take place?

A. It commenced on the 21st, and ended on the 23d of September, 1846.

Q. Where was the next battle fought?

A. At a place called Buena Vista.

Q. Who commanded the Mexicans in this battle?

A. General Santa Anna.

Q. What was the number of the forces on each side?

A. The Mexicans amounted to about 20,000 men, while the forces under General Taylor amounted to only 5,000.

Q. What was the issue of the battle?

A. The Mexicans were defeated, with a loss of nearly 2,000 in killed and wounded.

Q. What was General Taylor's loss?

A. He lost 267 killed, and 456 wounded.

Q. Can you mention the names of some of our officers who fell?

A. Yes: among them were Colonels McKee, Harden, Fell, Davis and Clay.

Q. When did this battle take place?

A. It took place on the morning of the 23d of February, 1847.

Q. Can you relate any incident of this battle?

A. While the battle raged in all its fury, Mr. Crittenden was sent with some message to the Mexican camp; while there, General Santa Anna told him, if General Taylor would surrender, he would be protected. Crittenden coolly replied—"*General Taylor never surrenders!*"

CHAPTER XV.

War with Mexico—General Scott—Surrender of Vera Cruz—Battle of Cerro Gordo—Battle of Contreras—Battle of Churubusco—Surrender of the City of Mexico.

Q. In the mean time what took place?

A. In the mean time General Scott was ordered to take command of the forces of the United States in Mexico.

Q. When and where was General Scott born?

A. General Winfield Scott was born in the year 1786, near Petersburg, in Virginia.

Q. When did he receive a commission in the army?

A. In the year 1808, he received a captain's commission; and by his bravery and talents, he has risen to his present distinguished post of Commander-in-chief of the United States forces.

Q. What was the first operation of General Scott, after he arrived in Mexico?

A. His first operations were directed against the city of Vera Cruz.

Q. When and by whom was the city of Vera Cruz founded?

A. It was founded in the year 1519, by Hernando Cortez, the early conqueror of Mexico.

Q. By what celebrated fortress was the city defended?

A. By the Castle of San Juan de Ulloa, situated on a small island, opposite the city.

Q. How did General Scott effect the reduction of the city?

A. He landed his troops below the city, and placed his batteries in such a position, that the place was soon compelled to surrender.

Q. Before commencing operations, what did he do?

A. He sent a summons to the Mexican Commander to surrender the city; at the same time permitting, all the inhabitants, who desired it, to retire with their property.

Q. When did the city surrender?

A. On the 27th of March, 1847.

Q. After the capture of Vera Cruz, where did General Scott direct his march?

A. Towards the middle of April, he left Vera Cruz, and directed his march towards the city of Mexico.

Q. Where did the Mexicans assemble to oppose his march?

A. At a place called Cerro Gordo.

Q. What followed?

A. A desperate battle followed, in which the Mexicans were again defeated.

Q. What was the loss on each side?

A. The Mexicans lost 1,200 in killed, and wounded; the loss, on the part of our army, amounted to 63 killed, and 368 wounded.

Q. How many Mexicans were taken prisoners?

A. About 3,000, and among them were 288 officers, and 5 generals.

Q. What is related of Santa Anna?

A. He escaped from the field of battle, leaving his carriage, and even his wooden leg, in the hands of the enemy.

Q. When did this battle take place?

A. It took place on the 17th and 18th of April, 1847.

Q. After this battle what did General Scott do?

A. Without delay he marched forward, and

took possession of the cities of Jalapa, Perote, and finally that of Puebla.

Q. Where is the cities of Jalapa, and Perote?

A. Jalapa is situated, on the road to the city of Mexico, about fifty miles from Vera Cruz: and Perote is situated about sixty miles from the coast, and was defended by a strong fortress.

Q. What did the Americans obtain by the surrender of this city?

A. The fortress was abandoned at the approach of the Americans, leaving behind 64 pieces of cannon, 11,065 cannon balls, 14,300 bombs, and 500 muskets.

Q. Where is Puebla situated?

A. Puebla is situated, about sixty miles from the city of Mexico, and one hundred and eighty-six from Vera Cruz. It is a very handsome city, and contains about eighty thousand inhabitants.

Q. Where did the next battle take place?

A. At a place called Contreras.

Q. Where is Contreras?

A. It is a lofty eminence, not far from the city of Mexico.

Q. What was the issue of the battle?

A. The Mexicans were defeated, with a loss of 700 killed, and 813 taken prisoners.

Q. When did this battle take place?

A. On the 20th of August, 1847.

Q. What place was next attacked?

A. The fortifications of Churubusco.

Q. How was the place defended?

A. It was defended by General Santa Anna, at the head of 25,000 men, strongly entrenched.

Q. Describe the battle?

A. The battle, which continued three hours, was furious in the extreme; at length the scale of victory turned in favor of the Americans. The Mexicans fled leaving their fortifications in the hands of the enemy.

Q. What was the loss on each side?

A. The Mexicans lost 600 in killed and wounded, and 1,100 prisoners; but the American loss amounted to nearly 1,000, in killed and wounded.

Q. When did this battle take place?

A. On the 20th of August, the same day with the battle of Contreras.

Q. After the battle, what did General Scott do?

A. He proposed an armistice, that the Mexican government might treat with our commissioner, Mr. Trist.

Q. Was the armistice accepted?

A. It was; but General Scott, finding that the Mexicans were secretly fortifying the city, declared the armistice at an end, after it had continued about 12 days.

Q. What followed?

A. Hostilities were immediately renewed, with redoubled energy on both sides.

Q. What was the first place of attack after the renewal of hostilities?

A. A strong fortress, called Molino del Rey, or the King's Mill.

Q. How was it defended?

A. It was defended by ten pieces of artillery, and about 10,000 men.

Q. What was the number of our forces?

A. About 4,000 men.

Q. What was the issue of the battle?

A. After a dreadful conflict of three hours, the Mexicans fled, leaving the fortress in the hands of the Americans.

Q. What place was next attacked?

A. The fortress of Chapultepec, which was considered as the key to the city of Mexico.

Q. What was the result?

A. After a bloody contest of several hours, the fortress was surrendered to the valor of our arms.

Q. What followed the taking of this fortress?

A. It was followed by the reduction of the city of Mexico.

Q. When did this event take place?

A. On the morning of the 15th of September, 1847, our troops entered the city, and at 7 o'clock our banner, for the first time, waved in triumph over the Mexican capital.

Q. Where is the city of Mexico situated?

A. The city of Mexico is situated in a beautiful valley, about 252 miles from Vera Cruz.

It stands upon nearly the same ground as that of the ancient city which was conquered by Cortez.

Q. What is its present population?

A. It contains at present about 200,000 inhabitants.

Q. When our troops entered the city what became of General Santa Anna?

A. The night previous to its surrender, he escaped, and retired to Guadaloupe.

Q. When and where was a treaty of peace concluded?

A. On the 2d of Frebruary, 1848, a treaty of peace was signed by the commissioners of both nations, at the city of Guadaloupe Hidalgo.

Q. When and where was it ratified?

A. It was ratified by both governments on the 30th of May, 1848, at Queretaro.

Q. By this treaty what is the present boundary between the two Republics?

A. The boundary line commences in the Gulf of Mexico, three leagues from land, and proceeds from thence up the middle of the Rio Grande to the southern boundary of Mexico; from thence to its western termination; thence along its western line until it intersects the river Gila; thence down that river until it empties into the Rio Colorado; then across the Colorado, following the line of division between Upper and Lower California, to the Pacific Ocean.

A

CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

OF

AMERICAN HISTORY,

From the Discovery, in 1492, *to the year* 1850.

1492 Columbus discovers the New World.
1497 The Cabots discover the Continent of N. America.
1499 Vespucci's voyage with Ojeda.
1501 Voyage of Cortereal.
1512 Juan Ponce de Leon discovers Florida.
1523 Verrazini explores the American coast.
1526 Narvaez attempts the conquest of Florida.
1534 Jacques Cartier sails up the St. Lawrence.
1539 Ferdinand de Soto begins the conquest of Florida.
1541 Soto discovers the Mississippi river.
1562 Ribault leaves a French colony on the coast of Florida.
1564 Laudonniere begins a French settlement on the river May.
1565 St. Augustine, the oldest town in the United States, founded by Pedro Melendez.
1576 Frobisher's expedition.
1579 Oregon territory visited by Sir Francis Drake.
First voyage of Sir Humphry Gilbert.
1583 Gilbert takes possession of Newfoundland.
1584 Raleigh's first expedition sent to Carolina, commanded by Amidas and Barlow.
1603 Gosnold's voyage to New England.
1605 First permanent French settlement in North America made at Port Royal.

1607 Jamestown in Virginia founded; the earliest permanent English settlement in North America.
1608 Quebec settled by Champlain.
1609 Henry Hudson discovers the Hudson river.
1610 The starving time in Virginia.
1611 Sir Thomas Dale arrives in Virginia.
1613 New York settled by the Dutch.
1619 First General Assembly of Virginia.
1620 Landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth.
1621 Charter granted to the Dutch West India Company for settling the territory between the Connecticut and the Delaware.
1622 Patent granted to Gorges and Mason by the Plymouth Company.
1623 Portsmouth and Dover settled by Gorges and Mason.
Albany settled by the Dutch.
1627 The Swedes settle on the Delaware, and call their colony New Sweden.
1630 Heath's patent, for Carolina, granted.
1631 Windsor in Connecticut settled.
1633 Maryland settled by Lord Baltimore.
The Dutch settle at Hartford.
1634 Banishment of Roger Williams from Massachusetts.
Representative form of government first adopted in New England.
1635 Saybrook settled by John Winthrop.
1636 Mr. Hooker emigrates from Massachusetts to Connecticut.
1637 Pequod war.
1638 New Haven settled.
1641 New Hampshire annexed to Massachusetts.
1643 Confederation of the New England colonies.
1644 Roger Williams obtains a charter for Rhode Island.
1650 Connecticut abandoned by the Dutch.
1651 Virginia capitulates to the parliament.
Risingh takes Fort Casimir from the Dutch.
1655 Stuyvesant, the Dutch governor of New York, conquers New Sweden.
1660 Charles II proclaimed in Virginia.
1663 Lord Clarendon obtains a charter for Carolina.
1664 Commissioners sent to New England to regulate the colonies.

1664 New York taken from the Dutch by the English.
Charles II grants to the Duke of York a patent for the country from the Delaware to the Connecticut.
The Duke of York grants New Jersey to Berkeley and Cartaret.
1670 Port Royal in South Carolina settled by Gov. Sayle.
1671 Charleston settled.
1673 New York re-conquered by the Dutch.
1674 New York restored to the English at tne treaty of Westminster.
1675 Commencement of King Philip's war.
1676 Bacon's rebellion in Virginia.
Death of King Philip.
Maine purchased by Massachusetts.
1681 First representative assembly in New Jersey.
Penn receives a charter for Pennsylvania.
1682 Philadelphia founded.
1684 Colonel Dongan and Lord Effingham's treaty with the Five Nations.
1685 Charles II dies and is succeeded by James II.
1686 Sir Edmund Andros appointed President of New England.
1687 Andros attempts to deprive Connecticut of its charter.
1688 New York and New Jersey added to the jurisdiction of Andros.
Revolution in England, which gives the sovereignty to William and Mary.
1689 Andros deposed and imprisoned, and William and Mary proclaimed at Boston.
Jacob Leisler usurps the government of New York.
War on the Canada border. Port Royal, in Nova Scotia, taken from the French.
1691 Colonel Sloughter appointed governor of New York.
Leisler deposed and executed.
1694 Culture of rice introduced into South Carolina.
1701 Penn grants a new charter to Pennsylvania.
Lord Cornbury appointed governor of New York.
1702 War with France and Spain.
Expedition against St. Augustine.
War on the Canada border.
1706 Unsuccessful attack of the Spaniards on Charleston.

1712 War in North Carolina with the Tuscarora and Coree Indians.
1729 North and South Carolina separated.
1732 General Oglethorpe obtains a charter for Georgia.
1733 General Oglethorpe colonises Georgia.
1740 Oglethorpe besieges St. Augustine.
1742 Invasion of Georgia by the Spaniards successfully resisted.
1744 War between France and England.
1745 Louisbourg taken.
1748 Treaty of Aix-la-Chapelle.
1752 Charter of Georgia surrendered to the king.
1754 Commencement of the Old French War.
1755 Nova Scotia conquered by the British.
Defeat of General Braddock.
1756 War formally declared between France and England.
1757 Fort William Henry taken by Montcalm.
1758 Forts Du Quesne and Frontignac taken by the English.
1759 Quebec taken. General Wolfe killed.
1765 Stamp act passed.
First Continental Congress meets at New York.
1766 Stamp act repealed.
1768 Boston garrisoned by British troops.
1773 Tea destroyed in Boston.
1774 Boston Port bill passed.
Continental Congress assembles at Philadelphia.
1775 April 19—Battle of Lexington and Concord.
May—Ticonderoga and Crown Point taken.
June 15—Washington appointed commander in chief.
17—Battle of Breed's Hill.
Nov. 19—Montreal taken by General Montgomery.
Dec. 31—Attack on Quebec defeated. Montgomery killed.
1776 March 17—Boston evacuated by the British.
June 28—Attack on Charleston defeated.
July 4—Declaration of Independence.
Aug. 26—Americans defeated on Long Island.
Sept. 15—New York occupied by the British.
Oct. 28—Battle of White Plains.
Nov.—Retreat of Washington through New Jersey.

1776 Dec. 26—Battle of Trenton.
1777 Jan. 2—Battle of Princeton.
Arrival of La Fayette.
Arrival of Burgoyne.
July—Ticonderoga taken by Burgoyne's troops.
Capture of General Prescott.
General Howe leaves New York and sails with 1,600 men for the South.
Aug. 16—Battle of Bennington.
Sept. 11—Battle of Brandywine.
18—Congress leaves Philadelphia.
19—Battle of Stillwater.
26—Philadelphia occupied by the British.
Oct. 4—Battle of Germantown.
7—Second Battle of Stillwater.
12—Surrender of Burgoyne.
22—Battle of Redbank.
Nov. 15—Articles of Confederation of the United States ratified.
Dec. 11—Washington retires to Valley Forge.
1778 Treaty between France and the United States.
May—Retreat of Barren Hill.
June 18—The British evacuate Philadelphia.
28—Battle of Monmouth.
July—Arrival of Count D'Estaing with a French fleet.
Massacre at Wyoming.
Aug.—Unsuccessful attempt to recover Rhode Island.
Dec. 28—The British take Savannah.
1779 Feb.—Unsuccessful attempt of the British on Port Royal.
March 3—Battle of Briar Creek.
April—Gen'l Prevost advances towards Charleston.
May—Descent of the British on Virginia.
June 20—Defeat of General Lincoln at Stono Ferry.
July—Descent of the British on Connecticut.
15—Storming of Stony Point.
19—Storming of Paulus Hook.
25—Defeat of the Americans at Penobscot.
Sept.—Arrival of the French fleet at Savannah.
23—Battle of the Bon Homme Richard and Serapis.

1779 Oct. 4—Siege of Savannah.
1780 May 12—Charleston capitulates.
29—Battle at the Waxhaws.
July 12—British defeated at Williamson's Plantation.
1780 Aug. 16—Battle of Camden.
18—Defeat of Sumter at Firling Creek.
Sept.—Arnold's treason at West Point.
Oct. 7—Battle of King's Mountain.
1781 Jan.—Descent of Arnold on Virginia.
17—Battle of Cowpens.
March 15—Battle of Guilford.
April 23—Marion takes Fort Watson.
Sept. 6—Descent of the British on New London.
7—Naval engagement of De Grasse and Graves.
8—Battle of Eutaw.
Oct. 19—Siege and surrender of Yorktown.
1782 Feb. 27—General Conway makes a motion in the British Parliament for discontinuing the American war.
Nov.—Treaty of Peace between the United States and Great Britain signed.
Dec.—American officers petition Congress for payment of arrears.
1783 March—Meeting of the officers.
April 19—Cessation of hostilities between the United States and Great Britain, proclaimed by General Washington.
Dec. 4—Washington takes leave of the officers of the army.
23—Washington resigns his commission.
1784 Sept.—Shay's rebellion.
1785 March—Convention at Alexandria.
1786 Sept.—Convention at Annapolis.
1787 May—Convention meets at Philadelphia for framing the Federal Constitution.
Sept. 17—Constitution made public.
1788 The new Constitution ratified by all the States except Rhode Island.
1789 March 4—Washington's Administration commences.
1790 National debt funded.
Aug. 7—Creek War terminated by a treaty.

1790 First Census of the United States taken: population 3,929,326.
1791 The City of Washington laid out.
Nov.—Defeat of General St. Clair.
Vermont admitted to the Union.
1793 Yellow Fever rages in Philadelphia.
1794 Aug. 20—General Wayne defeats the Indians on the Miami.
Died this year, General Sullivan and Richard Henry Lee.
1795 Treaty with Algiers concluded.
General Marion dies.
1797 John Adams elected President, and Thomas Jefferson Vice President of the United States.
March 4—Commencement of John Adams' Administration.
The Yellow Fever again visits Philadelphia.
1799 Dec. 14—Death of General Washington.
1800 Second Census of the U. States: population 5,305,485.
Sept. 30—Treaty of peace between the United States and France signed.
Nov.—Congress first sits at Washington.
1801 March 4—Commencement of Jefferson's Administration.
1802 July 20—Louisiana ceded to France.
1803 April 30—Louisiana purchased by the United States.
War with Tripoli.
1807 June—Affair of the Chesapeake and Leopard.
Dec.—Embargo Law passed.
Burr's Conspiracy and Trial.
1809 March 4—Commencement of Madison's Administration.
Embargo Law repealed.
April 23—Mr. Erskine engages on behalf of the British government that the Orders in Council shall be rescinded.
1811 May 16—Affair of the Little Belt.
Nov. 7—Battle of Tippecanoe.
1812 Jan. 11—Additional force of 35,000 men authorized.
Loan of eleven million dollars authorized.
Enrolment of militia authorized, not exceeding 100,000.

1812 June 18—War declared against Great Britain by the United States.
23—Orders in Council revoked.
July 12—General Hull invades Canada.
Aug. 9—Battle of Brownstown.
Aug. 13—British ship-of-war Alert, taken by the Essex.
Surrender of Fort Mackinaw.
16—General Hull capitulates.
19—Guerriere, British frigate, taken by the Constitution.
Sept.—General Harrison takes command of the North-Western army.
3—Attack on Fort Harrison.
Oct'r 8—Brigs Detroit and Caledonia taken by a party of American volunteers.
13—Unsuccessful attack on Queenstown by the American troops.
14—Abortive expedition of General Hopkins.
17—British ship Frolic captured by American ship Wasp. Both vessels afterwards taken by the Poictiers, 74.
25—Macedonian frigate taken by the United States.
Nov.—Unsuccessful operations of General Smyth.
Dec. 29—Java, British frigate, taken by the Constitution.
1813 Jan.—The army and navy ordered to be increased by Congress.
13—General Winchester surprised and defeated by the enemy.
Feb. 23—British ship Peacock, taken by the Hornet.
March 4—James Madison inaugurated President, and Elbridge Gerry Vice-President.
April 15—Mobile taken by a body of the American army.
27—York, in Upper Canada, taken. General Pike killed.
May—Fort Meigs besieged by the British. General Clay defeated.
27—Fort George taken by the American troops.

1813 May 29—British defeated in an attempt on Sackett's Harbor.
June 1—Chesapeake frigate taken by the British frigate Shannon.
5—Generals Chandler and Winder taken prisoners at Stony Creek.
1813 June 23—Admiral Cockburn defeated at Craney Island.
25—Hampton taken by the British.
Aug. 1—Fort Sandusky unsuccessfully attacked by the allied British and Indian force.
14—United States brig Argus taken by the British ship Pelican.
Sept. 4—British brig Boxer taken by United States brig Enterprize.
10—British squadron on Lake Erie taken by the Americans.
Oct. 5—British army defeated and taken by General Harrison.
Nov. 1—Expedition against Montreal.
11—Battle of Williamsburg.
19—Fort Niagara taken.
1814 Feb. 23—Mission to Gottenburg.
March 20—Frigate Essex taken by two British vessels.
April 21—United States ship Frolic taken.
28—Epervier taken by the Peacock.
July 3—Fort Erie taken by General Brown.
6—Battle of Chippeway.
25—Battle of Bridgewater.
Aug. 9—Attack on Stonington.
15—Battle of Fort Erie.
24—Battle of Bladensburg. Washington taken, the Capitol and other public buildings burned by the British.
Sept. 1—Avon taken by the Wasp.
11—British squadron on Lake Champlain captured by the American squadron under Commodore M'Donough. Defeat of the British at Plattsburg.
24—Treaty of Peace signed at Ghent.
Dec. 28—British first repulsed at New Orleans.

1815 Jan. 1—Second repulse of the British.
8—Signal defeat of the British, by General Jackson.
15—United States frigate President taken by a British squadron.
Feb. 17—Treaty of peace ratified.
1815 Feb. 20—Cyane and Levant taken by the Constitution. War declared against the Algerines.
April—Massacre of the American prisoners at Dartmoor, in England.
May—Commodore Decatur sails with a squadron to Algiers.
June 18—An Algerine frigate of 44 guns, captured by the Guerriere.
Aug.—The Franklin, 74, launched. Treaty of peace concluded with the Dey of Algiers.
1816 April—The National Bank established by Congress with a capital of thirty-five millions.
Oct'r—A treaty concluded by General Jackson with the Indians.
Dec.—Indiana Territory admitted into the Union as a State.
1817 Jan. 1—The United States Bank opened for business at Philadelphia.
March 4—James Monroe inaugurated President, and D. D. Tompkins Vice President.
Dec. 11—The Mississippi Territory admitted into the Union.
1818 War with the Seminole Indians commenced.
April—The Seminoles defeated and dispersed by General Jackson.
May 1—Arbuthnot and Armbrister tried, and afterwards executed by order of General Jackson.
May 28—General Jackson takes possession of Pensacola.
Nov.—Pensacola restored to the Spaniards, by order of the American government.
Dec. 4—Illinois Territory admitted into the Union.
1819 Arkansas Territory organized by act of Congress.
Feb. 23—A treaty for the cession of Florida signed at Washington, and ratified by the United States.
May—The first Steamship sails for Europe.

1819 Aug.—The King of Spain refuses to ratify the Florida treaty.
23—Commodore Perry dies in the West Indies.
Dec.—Alabama admitted into the Union.
1820 Population of the United States, 9,625,734.
1820 Maine admitted into the Union as a state.
American Colonization Society sent out their first colonists to Liberia.
1821 Missouri admitted into the Union as a state.
1824 The Marquis de La Fayette visited the United States.
1825 March 4—John Quincy Adams inaugurated President of the United States.
1826 July 4—The Ex-Presidents John Adams and Thomas Jefferson died.
American Temperance Society instituted at Boston.
1829 March 4—Andrew Jackson inaugurated President of the United States.
1830 An act passed by Congress to remove the Indians residing in any of the States or territories, to the west of the Missisippi.
Population of the United States, 12,866,020.
1832 The United States visited with the cholera.
1833 Andrew Jackson commences his second term as President of the United States.
Removal of the government deposites, from the United States Bank to the state banks.
1835 Sept.—Wisconsin made a territory.
Arkansas admitted into the Union.
Great fire in New York.
1836 February 29—General Gaines' battle.
May—The Creeks make war upon the whites.
1837 Michigan admitted into the Union.
March 4—Van Buren inaugurated.
Great pecuniary distress.
May 10—The banks stop specie payments.
Dec. 31—General Clinch's battle of the Withlacoochee.
1838 Canadians revolt, and are aided by the Americans.
1841 March 4—Wm. H. Harrison inaugurated.
April 4—Death of President Harrison.
1843 August 5—Great flood and tornado at Philadelphia and various parts of the United States.

1845 March 4—James K. Polk inaugurated.
June 8—General Jackson dies.
Dec. 29—Texas admitted into the Union.
1846 May 3d--Hostilities commenced between Mexico and the United States. Battle of Palo Alto.
1847 Feb. 23—Battle of Buena Vista.
March 26—Vera Cruz surrenders to General Scott.
Sept. 15—The city of Mexico surrenders.
1848 John Q. Adams falls and dies in the House of Congress.
Feb. 2—A treaty of peace concluded at Guadaloupe Hidalgo, between the United States and Mexico.
1849 March 4—General Zachary Taylor inaugurated President.
Ex-President Polk died.

THE END.

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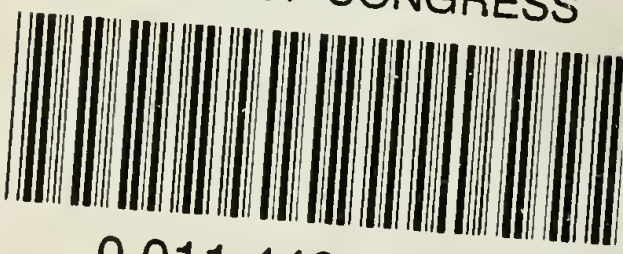
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